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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/865,043	05/24/2001	Claudia Alimpich	AM997158US2	3107

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, CAO H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2173

DATE MAILED: 10/01/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/865,043

Applicant(s)

Alimpich et al.

Examiner

Cao (Kevin) Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on May 24, 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-59 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-59 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☒ The proposed drawing correction filed on Apr 24, 2001 is: a) ☒ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_ 6) ☐ Other:

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## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103© and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

2. Claims 30-59 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shalit (US Patent No. 5,714,971) in view of Williams et al. (US Patent No. 6,043,816).

Regarding claim 30, Shalit discloses a method for executing tasks with devices, comprising displaying a first tree view of a hierarchy of a first set of user selectable elements

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representing devices in a first pane of a graphical user interface (GUI) window (see col. 2, lines 8-56); displaying a second tree view of a hierarchy of a second set of user selectable elements representing tasks capable of being executed by the devices in a second pane of the GUI window (see col. 4, lines 43-67); however, Shalit fails to explicitly teach receiving indication of user selection of one of the tasks displayed in the second pane; and one of the devices displayed in the first pane to cause the selected device to execute the selected task.

Williams teaches receiving indication of user selection of one of the tasks displayed in the second pane and one of the devices displayed in the first pane to cause the selected device to execute the selected task (see col. 4, lines 4-67). It would have been obvious to one of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide receiving indication of user selection of one of the tasks displayed in the second pane and one of the devices displayed in the first pane to cause the selected device to execute the selected task as taught by Williams to the window interactive user interface of Shalit, in order to add interactive selection of printing processes to Shalit because it would allow a user to view and edits the contents of a print job, which could be stored as objects or indicating user working status of window operation going on in the various windows.

Regarding claim 31, Williams discloses receiving indication of user selection of one of the selectable elements displayed in the first pane or the second pane; and displaying additional

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data related to the user selected element in a third pane in the GUI window, wherein the third pane is capable of displaying additional data related to selectable elements the user selected in the first and second panes (see col. 6, lines 1-65).

Regarding claim 32, Shalit discloses wherein the additional data displayed in the third pane in response to selection of one selectable element in the first pane representing one device indicates an operation status of at least one device (see figure 6).

Regarding claim 33, Williams discloses wherein the additional data displayed in the third pane in response to user selection of one selectable element in the second pane representing one task indicates information on the task (see col. 7, lines 1-61).

Regarding claim 34, Williams discloses after one task for which information is displayed has completed executing, displaying the second pane without the selectable element representing the task that has completed (see figure 3d).

Regarding claim 35, Williams discloses further comprising receiving indication of user selection of one selectable element in the first pane associated with all the user selectable elements representing the devices; and displaying additional data in a third pane indicating an operational status of all the devices represented by user selectable elements displayed in the first pane (see col. 8, lines 13-67 and figures 6-7).

Regarding claim 39, Shalit discloses wherein receiving indication of user selection of one of the tasks and one of the devices comprises receiving user indication of dragging one task

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represented in the second pane and dropping the dragged task to one device represented in the first pane (see col. 9, lines 4-59).

As claims 40-45, 49-55 and 59 are analyzed as previously discussed with respect to claims 31-39 above.

3. Claims 36-38, 46-48 and 56-58 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shalit and Williams as applied to claims 31-35 above, and further in view of Hower, Jr. et al.

Regarding claim 36, Shalit and Williams fails to explicitly disclose wherein the devices represented by the user selectable elements comprise printers and wherein the tasks represented by the user selectable elements in the second pane comprise print jobs.

Hower teaches wherein the devices represented by the user selectable elements comprise printers and wherein the tasks represented by the user selectable elements in the second pane comprise print jobs (see col. 9, lines 1-67). It would have been obvious to one of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide print job as taught by Hower to the GUI window of Williams and Shalit so that the print job selections available at the printer corresponding to the selected print queue are displayed to the user via the user interface.

Regarding claim 37 and 38, Hower discloses further comprising displaying in a third pane status of print jobs represented by user selectable elements in the second pane; and displaying in the third pane media available at each printer represented by the user selectable elements in the first pane (see figures 3-5).

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As claims 46-48 and 56-58 are analyzed as previously discussed with respect to claims 36-38 above.

*Conclusion*

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. (PTO-892).

*Response*

5. Responses to this action should be mailed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231. If applicant desires to fax a response, (703) 308-9051 may be used for formal communications or (703) 305-9724 for informal or draft communications.

Please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT" for informal facsimile communications. For after final responses, please label "AFTER FINAL" or "EXPEDITED PROCEDURE" on the document.

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA. Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

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*Inquires*

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cao (Kevin) Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-3972. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 6:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John W. Cabeca, can be reached on (703) 308-3116. The fax number for this group is (703) 308-6606.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3800.

  
**CAO (KEVIN) NGUYEN**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**  
September 24, 2003

